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IN THE CLAIMS

Amendments To The Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Canceled)
2. (Cancelled)
3. (Cancelled)
4. (New) A seat belt device for a vehicle, comprising:

a retractor to dispense and retract webbing of a seat belt, said webbing being locked so that it cannot be drawn out of the retractor when an acceleration equal to or larger than a predetermined value is applied to the vehicle;

an electric motor driven for rotation in a normal direction to take up the webbing of the seat belt when a collision of the vehicle is predicted and the acceleration equal to or larger than the predetermined value is applied to the vehicle, and, when the collision of the vehicle has been avoided and the acceleration has been reduced to be smaller than the predetermined value, driven for rotation in the normal direction to cancel locking thereby loosening the webbing; and

means for sensing the acceleration equal to or larger than the predetermined value or smaller than the predetermined value to control the electric motor.

5. (New) A seat belt device for a vehicle, comprising:

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a retractor to dispense and retract webbing of a seat belt, said webbing being locked so that it cannot be drawn out of the retractor when an acceleration equal to or larger than a predetermined value is applied to the vehicle; and

an electric motor driven for rotation in a normal direction to take up the webbing of the seat belt when a collision of the vehicle is predicted and the acceleration equal to or larger than the predetermined value is applied to the vehicle, and, when the collision of the vehicle has been avoided and the acceleration has been reduced to be smaller than the predetermined value, driven for rotation in the normal direction to loosen the webbing;

wherein said retractor includes a movable weight member and a locking lever in contact with the weight member, said weight member moving when the acceleration is equal to or larger than the predetermined value applied to the vehicle to move said locking lever so as to lock said retractor; and

wherein when the acceleration has been reduced to be smaller than the predetermined value, said locking lever being located so as to move under the force of gravity to unlock said retractor.

6. (New) A seat belt device for a vehicle, comprising an electric motor of a retractor which is driven for rotation in a normal direction to take up a webbing of a seat belt based on a collision predicting signal which predicts a collision of the vehicle, said electric motor of the retractor being driven for rotation in a reverse direction in response to said collision predicting signal disappearing, thereby to loosen the webbing,

the seat belt device further comprising a weight which is operatively associated with said retractor and responsive to an acceleration applied to the vehicle,

wherein when said acceleration applied to the vehicle is equal to or larger than a predetermined value, said weight is moved to make the retractor lock the webbing, so that the webbing is kept from being drawn out of the retractor, whereas when the acceleration applied to the vehicle has been reduced to be smaller than the predetermined value, the

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electric motor is driven for rotation in the normal direction to cancel the locking, thereby loosening the webbing.

7. (New) The seat belt device according to claim 6, wherein said collision predicting signal is obtained from an adaptive cruise control system that controls a distance between the vehicle and a preceding vehicle.

8. (New) A seat belt device for a vehicle, comprising an electric motor of a retractor which is driven for rotation in a normal direction to take up a webbing of a seat belt based on a collision predicting signal which predicts a collision of the vehicle, said electric motor of the retractor being driven for rotation in a reverse direction in response to said collision predicting signal disappearing, thereby to loosen the webbing,

wherein the retractor comprises an inertia gear mounted at a rotary shaft of a reel which is driven and rotated by said electric motor, and a locking lever having a ratchet claw which is capable of being engaged with ratchet teeth of the inertia gear to lock the reel non-rotatably,

the seat belt device further comprising a weight which is operatively associated with said locking lever and responsive to an acceleration applied to the vehicle,

wherein when said acceleration applied to the vehicle is equal to or larger than a predetermined value, said weight is moved to actuate the locking lever to prevent rotation of the reel in the reverse direction, so that the webbing is locked and kept from being drawn out of the retractor, whereas when the acceleration applied to the vehicle has been reduced to be smaller than the predetermined value, the electric motor is driven to rotate the reel in the normal direction to rotate the inertia gear in an amount corresponding to at least one crest of the ratchet teeth to cancel the locking, thereby loosening the webbing.

9. (New) The seat belt device according to claim 8, wherein said collision predicting signal is obtained from an adaptive cruise control system that controls a distance between the vehicle and a preceding vehicle.